

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PM-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07

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R 031557Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4489

INFO USMISSION NATO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4892

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PMOL, PFOR, NL

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS DEFENSE NOTE

REF: (A) STATE 215770

(B) USNATO 5411

1. PLEASE SEE THE HAGUE 4789 OF SEPT 27 WHICH REPORTED PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF MOTION REQUESTING THAT GON IMMEDIATELY INTRODUCE QUESTION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND TACTICAL AIR FORCE REDUCTIONS INTO MBFR TALKS.

2. FONMIN VAN DER STOEL RESPONDED TO THE MOTION BY SAYING THAT: GON WAS "HOPEFULLY LOOKING FORWARD" TO RESUMPTION OF MBFR TALKS. PARLIAMENT SHOULD NOT BE DESPONDENT OVER PROGRESS OF TALKS. DUTCH SHARED GOAL OF REDUCING NOT ONLY TROOP LEVELS, BUT ALSO NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IMMEDIATE ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WAS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GET A REDUCTION. GON COULD NOT INTRODUCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS QUESTION INTO MBFR SINCE THIS A DECISION FOR THE ALLIANCE. GON WOULD, HOWEVER, SEEK
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"AS SOON AS POSSIBLE" TO HAVE IT CONSIDERED. EMBASSY

HASN'T SEEN TEXT BUT UNDERSTANDS HE LATER SAID ISSUE
WOULD BE RAISED "AT SOME MOMENT."

3. DEFMIN VREDELING SPEAKING TO POINT SAID THAT "REAL
NEGOTIATIONS" IN VIENNA WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL
WEAPONS SYSTEMS WERE INCLUDED IN TALKS. VREDELING
SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK IT UNLIKELY THAT AIR FORCES
WOULD IN THE FUTURE BE INCLUDED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.
GON WOULD MAKE A STRONG PLEA FOR THIS.

4. IN DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF OCT 3, BIEGMAN, NATO
POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN MFA, SAID VREDELING HAD SAID MORE
THAN HE SHOULD HAVE IN REFERRING TO AIR FORCE REDUCTIONS.
DESPITE INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO TACTICAL AIR FORCES
IN SECOND CHAMBER'S AMENDMENT, GON WAS NOT CONSIDERING
INTRODUCING AIR FORCE SYSTEMS INTO MBFR. BIEGMAN SAID
VREDELING MAY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO SOOTHE MOTION'S SPONSOR,
DANKERT, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
IN PARLIAMENT, AND MEMBER OF VREDELING'S PARTY.
"REDUCTION OF AIR FORCES IN EUROPE IS NOT A BEE BUZZING
IN GON'S BONNET," BIEGMAN CLAIMED.

5. RE TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BIEGMAN SAID GON
HOPES US WILL DECIDE SOON TO MOVE AHEAD WITH OPTION III.
DUTCH BELIEVE SOVIETS WILL BEFORE LONG DEMAND THAT
ALLIES SHOW SOME MOVEMENT AWAY FROM PRESENT POSITION.
GOULD

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